

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-8, 10 and 18-31 are pending in this application. Claims 9 and 11-17 are withdrawn. By this Amendment, claims 1, 3, 8, 10, 13 and 18 are amended, claims 21-31 are added and Figs. 3 and 9 are corrected. Reconsideration of the present application based on the above amendments and following the remarks is respectfully requested.

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the Office Action's indication that claims 8 and 18 recite allowable subject matter. Claims 8 and 18 have been amended to clarify the features of these claims. Moreover, the base claims corresponding to claim 8 have been incorporated into claim 8. As such, it is respectfully submitted that claim 8 and 18 are in condition for allowance. Prompt and favorable allowance of claims 8 and 18 is respectfully requested.

I. The Claims Satisfy the Requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 3-8 and 18 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 1 and 18 have been amended to clarify the "transmissive portion" feature. As noted in the specification, the term "transmissive portion" can mean, for example, "a portion in the transfective layer through which illumination light from the illumination device is transmitted", and is not restricted to opening portions (i.e., holes) formed in the transfective layer. Claim 1 has also been amended to provide proper antecedent basis for "transmissive area" with regard to claims 3-6 and 8. Claim 3 has been amended to depend from claim 1.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, is respectfully requested. Moreover, it is respectfully submitted that claims 8 and 18 are in condition for allowance. Prompt allowance of claims 8 and 18 are respectfully requested.

II. The Drawings Satisfy All Formal Requirements

Figs. 3 and 9 have been amended to replace reference sign 512A with reference sign 521A. Reference sign 521A is clearly described in the application with reference to Figs. 3 and 9.

III. The Claims Define Allowable Subject Matter

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 3, 5-8, 10, 19 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,124,909 to Miyashita et al. and claim 4 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Miyashita in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,828,365 to Stewart. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Miyashita fails to disclose a liquid crystal display, comprising a transflective layer, the transflective layer including for each sub-pixel a reflective portion and a transmissive portion that transmits the illumination light formed thereto, each reflective portion having an outer edge disposed at at least one of the outer edges of the corresponding sub-pixel, as recited in claim 1 and similarly recited in claim 10.

Instead, in Miyashita, the conductive reflecting film is formed within a pixel area. For example, in Fig. 27, conductive reflective film 3b is shown near the center of pixel area A. The outer edge of the conductive reflecting film is not at the outer edge of the sub-pixel.

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the applied art fails to disclose all of the features of claims 1 and 10. As such, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1 and 10 are distinguishable from the applied art. Furthermore, those claims which depend from claims 1 and 10 are likewise distinguishable from the applied art for at least the reasons discussed above, as well as for the additional features they recite. Accordingly, the withdrawal of the rejections of the claims are respectfully requested.

Furthermore, in view of the allowability of claims 1 and 10, the rejoinder of the withdrawn claims is respectfully requested.

IV. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the claims is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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JAO:JLC

Attachments:

Amendment Transmittal
Replacement Sheets of Figs. 3 and 9

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